



Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club

Short Circuit

1	Timely Information
2	Nets of Interest ACS/ARES Corner
3	Member Updates
4	The Marketplace
5	Simi Settlers' Leadership
6	Membership Form

The next **meeting** is at the
Simi Senior Center,
3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley.
Thursday February 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

The next **Pizza** Night is at
Toppers Pizza, 2408 Erringer Rd, Simi Valley
Thursday February 5, 2026 at 6:00 PM

The November 2025 meeting was a discussion of digital modes such as packet radio, winlink, APRS, FLDigi, and Vara FM.

We are going to continue this at the **February** meeting.

Care to bring your portable / mobile digital box to the meeting?

February 2026

A selection of NETS

Monday	Condor Connection (Plays Newslane)	7:00 PM	Frazier Mountain 224.720-1.6 MHz PL156.7
Tuesday	County ACS HF net	6:30 PM	Summer 7.242 +/- Winter 3.987 +/-
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Simplex net	6:45 PM	145.510 MHz Simplex
	ACS Area 1 - Simi Repeater net	7:00 PM	Simi Repeater 146.805 -0.6 MHz PL 100.0
	ATN-CA Net	7:30 PM	https://www.atn-tv.com
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Wednesday	Channel Islands chapter 10-10 International	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	28.34 MHz
	Mesh VOIP Net* Voice / video / data	8:00 PM	2.4/5.8 GHz Mesh
Thursday	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
Saturday	SSARC SSB HF Net	8:30 AM	7.240 (+ or - QRM/N) 40 meter
	CW-QRP	9:00 AM	7.032 MHz
	Quad Squad net	1:00 PM	21.365 MHz
Sunday	The Newbie net	7:00 PM	Bozo Repeater 147.885 –0.6 MHz PL 127.3
	LSB Net	8:00 PM	3.908 MHz
	SSARC 2 Meter Net**	8:30 PM	447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz

Additional listings of **MORE** local nets can be found on the CVARC web site at: <http://www.cvarc.org>

* For more information, see <http://www.pvarc.club/mesh/mesh-applications/>

Our Sunday night net at 8:30 on 447.640 UHF repeater - PL is 131.8 Hz:

February 1	Ron K6RIN	March 1	Kevin KD6UTC
February 8	Kerwyn N6YHX	March 8	Matt N3AR
February 15	Batt KN6SEC	March 15	Ron K6RIN
February 22	Brian KM6MIN	March 22	Kerwyn N6YHX
		March 29	Matt KN6SEC

February 2026

ACS/ARES Corner

Frank Valdez KI6OQ is the Area 1 Emergency Coordinator

We are always looking for ACS members that would like to become Net Controllers. You will receive hands-on training at the Simi Valley PD (where we normally conduct the Weekly Net). It is both fun and at times challenging. You will gain valuable experience in running a controlled Net as well as becoming more than just familiar with the equipment in the Radio Room at the PD. If you would like to volunteer for this, just message Frank Valdez at frankki6oq@gmail.com.



The **Area 1** (Simi Valley) net occurs **Tuesdays**. Generally it is just a brief check in, but usually some news about upcoming events is passed on. **Stop by and say Hi.** You do not have to do anything other than check in to test out your simplex or repeater connection.

The Tuesday **HF net** during summer months is on 7.242 +/- at **6:30 PM**.

During the winter, it is back to 3.987 lower side band.

The Tuesday **simplex net** is on 145.510 at **6:45 PM**.

The Tuesday **repeater net** is on the 146.805 (-0.6 MHz, PL 100) repeater at **7:00 PM**.

NOTE: Please be advised that we hold the Tuesday **countywide** net at 19:30 (7:30PM) on the Sulphur Mountain WD6EBY repeater 145.200, minus 600 KHz offset, CTCSS of 127.3. Until further notice, this will be our standard frequency for countywide communications.

Visit vccomm.org for more updates.

For the Tuesday night nets, our net control will be:

10 February	Lisa	KK6AKR
17 February	Ron	K6RIN
24 February	Eric	KE6MLF

3 March	Bill	AB6BW	County
10 March	Dante	W6JCQ	
17 March	Lisa	KK6AKR	
24 March	Frank	KI6OQ	
31 March	Ron	K6RIN	

February 2026

Member Updates

Swap meet by Eric KE6MLF

How did everybody do at last month's swap meet? I got rid of some stuff, the rest is now in the e-waste box at work. I did score these dainty tools. Tiny screwdrivers, wrenches, nut drivers...



February 2026

Tiny things To Do by Eric KE6MLF

These are not really news, but here are a few of the things **nagging** me. If only I could stop having disasters AND calamities, I could get to some of these items. **How many of you have a similar “hot list”?** Good news is that I can write all these things down so I do not forget them.

Glenn had his multi-band HF antenna damaged from the high winds. I will pull it down and see what we can replace it with.

Lisa really needs an external antenna. I think on Tuesday night check ins, she has to stand outside on a high point in the front yard, AND stand on tippy toes. Almost any bigger antenna with a thin coax lead so she can sit in-side with a handheld radio would be better. Problem is, she and her husband do not want any holes drilled. Checked the roof, there are solar and water heating panels all over it. The chimney is stucco, no brick. **No easy solution.**

The Mellow Lane repeater just needs the 440 radio connected back up to the dual port controller. Issue is that the polarity of the control signals is backwards after the last rebuild.

Orv has got Joe's Microtik router **resurrected**, hopefully it stays alive for a while. If Orv and Joe do not connect at a meeting, I need to get it and take it to Joe, I work close to his home.

Orv has the controller from the old 220 repeater, he is going to use a new one. Perhaps we could use the old one at Mellow Lane, something there has a bit of a “squawk” at the end of audio transmissions. I will get it from Orv to **store** at my house for a while.

I have the hydraulic hole punch we used on the Simi North cabinets. I need to get it back to Paul WD6EBY so it stops taking up room in my garage aisleway.

I was building an Auduino / Dorji radio. Stalled and waiting for time to do a second revision after lessons learned from the first build.

One of the video cameras at Simi North is being cranky. Orv thinks maybe it is a port on the switch. Orv will move it to a different port and see if that helps.

There was no Internet at the Simi Adventist hospital radio room. We can not update programs or install new ones. **Email sent to the IT guy at the hospital.** For the Tuesday night nets, I rotate between the police station, the hospital, and home. I like running the net from home, the management lets me have a drink during radio hours. I do however, need to get a working TNC back to the hospital long before my next rotation date.

I had a large tree fall over during the extended rain, it is now stuck leaning on other trees. I need to take many days to cut it down and get rid of it. Got to be careful, my G5RV antenna and two vertical mast mounts are in **peril** if the tree sags anymore.

I have 4 spools of enameled magnet wire. I need to measure the diameters to find the wire gauge, and get the desired size to Matt N3AR.

I have 5 variable caps that came from Jim KI6MZ. Matt N3AR wants them. Good, he can **store them for the next decade** or two.

February 2026

I offered to Kerwyn an HF vertical antenna to borrow for a few years. I need to collect all the **parts** together and get it over to him.

Matt KN6SEC needs to learn soldering to build his RF Detector project. Club project if we can find a place to solder?

Orv wants to know how to do surface mount soldering. Another club project, need a kit?

Glenn WA6GNB bought several Arduinos for the RF Detector project and has a few left over. Sounds like a good subject for a club presentation with units given away to those interested.



February 2026

SimiNorth Radio Site Update by Orv W6BI

Made up a wire (a la SimiWest) to hold the cabinet door open in the wind.

The guys had already run the power cable for the rack-mount power strip in the new cabinet. I plugged it in, then ran the power cable from the two cabinet vent fans to the strip. They're temperature controlled and spun up nicely when I turned the control down. I've turned it up to where they aren't running.

In spite of us putting weed control fabric down under the gravel, weeds have been popping up there and there. I spent some time spraying weed killer everywhere I saw weeds popping up through the gravel. I also (because I had some left over) sprayed around both cabinets, around the perimeter of the gravel, and along the fence line to about 20 feet east of the panels.

What I didn't get done is get the USB cable hooked up to the MPPT solar controller. I'll need to RTFM a bit for the next visit.

Orv W6BI

Simi Hospital TNC by Eric KE6MLF

The Terminal Node Controller (TNC) for packet radio at the Hospital radio room is on the fritz.

Bill AB6BW says another TNC intended for 220 at the police station could be moved to the hospital for use on 2 meter, as there is no 220 packet in use in our area. A back up if the original can not be brought back to life?

A Kantronics KAM XL was also at the hospital, but not connected to anything. Our SK Area 1 Emergency Coordinator Steve KE6WEZ did not leave any hints as to its functionality.

For those who do not do packet, a TNC is the do-hickey that takes computer data, puts it into AX.25 format, turns it into audio tones, and sends it through your radio while toggling the push to talk signal. Same thing in return, it turns received audio tones into serial data for your computer.

February 2026

Here are the three TNCs. My Kantronics KAM Plus is on the bottom. Probably 25 years old, still works great.

In the middle of the stack is the KAM XL. It was at the hospital, unknown if it works, I will have to build a set of cables.

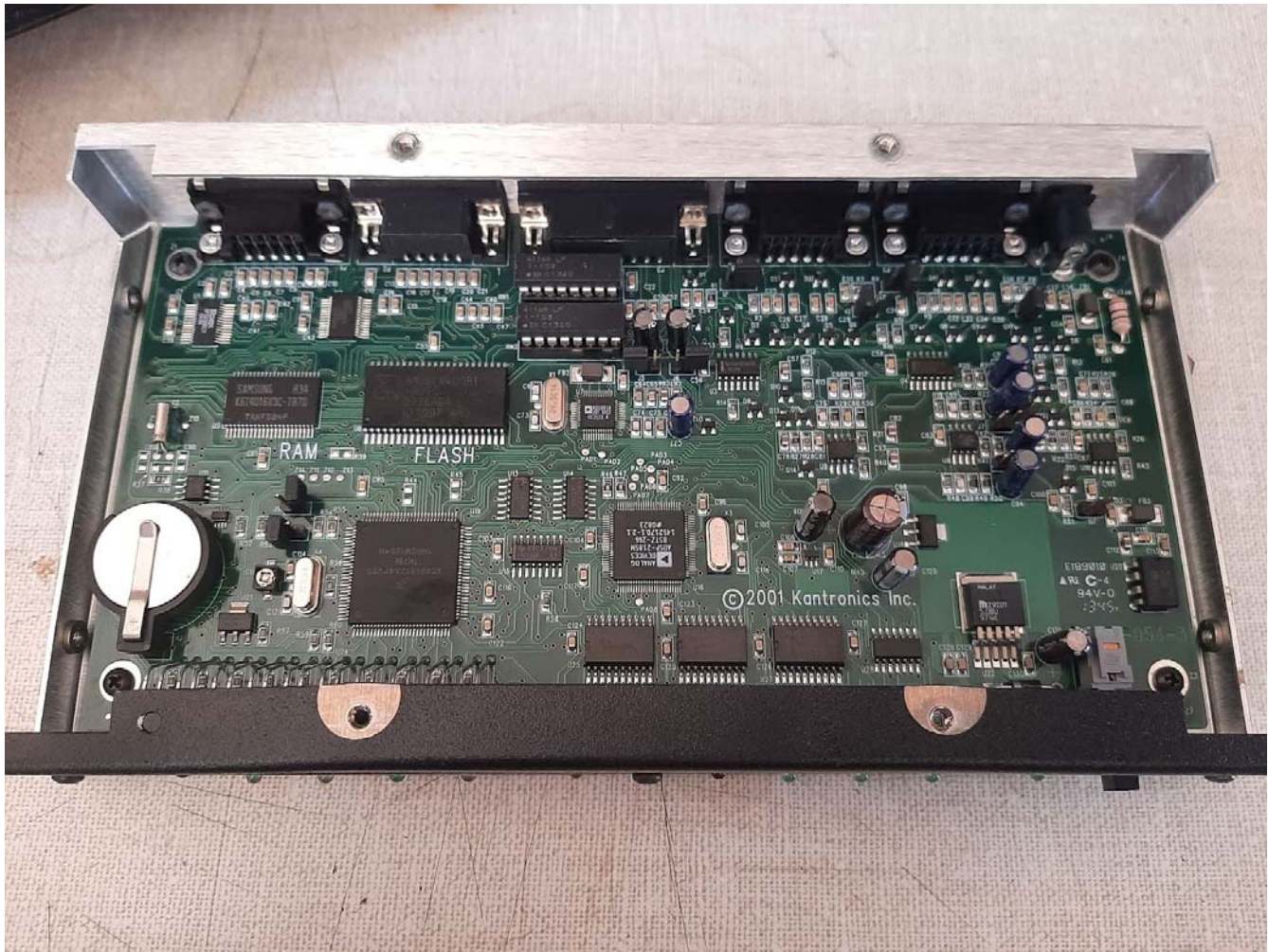
On the top is the Packet Communicator 3 that was working for years at the hospital radio room.

Seems that Kantronics was (and still is) the go-to company for packet digital radio hardware.



February 2026

Here is the inside of the KAM XL Looks good, it did talk to my computer over a USB port.
What did Steve get this for, and why was it put to the side?



February 2026

Here are the insides of the Packet Communicator 3. I checked a few voltages, put in a new battery, and did the full reset by moving a jumper and cycling the power. It worked for last week's check in from my house to the police station. If it works again this week, I will call it "revived" and put it back into the hospital radio room.



February 2026

Internet Resources

simisettlers.org - us!

cvarc.org - Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club

k6mep.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Club

vcars.org - Ventura County Amateur Radio Society

pvarc.club - The home of many of the counties repeaters

arednmesh.org - Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network

vccomm.org - Ventura County ACS / ARES

www.arrl.org - American Radio Relay League

archive.org/details/simi-settlers-arc - Our old newsletters!

qrz.com - forums, for sale, articles - **Create your profile here!**

eham.net - forums, for sale, articles (kind of a zombie site)

www.theborednet.net - a local bulletin board including net schedules and **stuff** for sale!

Under the **groups.io** banner (a free account is required):

groups.io/g/SimiSettlers/messages - A great place to post

groups.io/g/SIMI-VALLEY-HAMMESHNET/messages

vc-acs.groups.io/g/main/messages

vc-acs.groups.io/g/area-1/messages

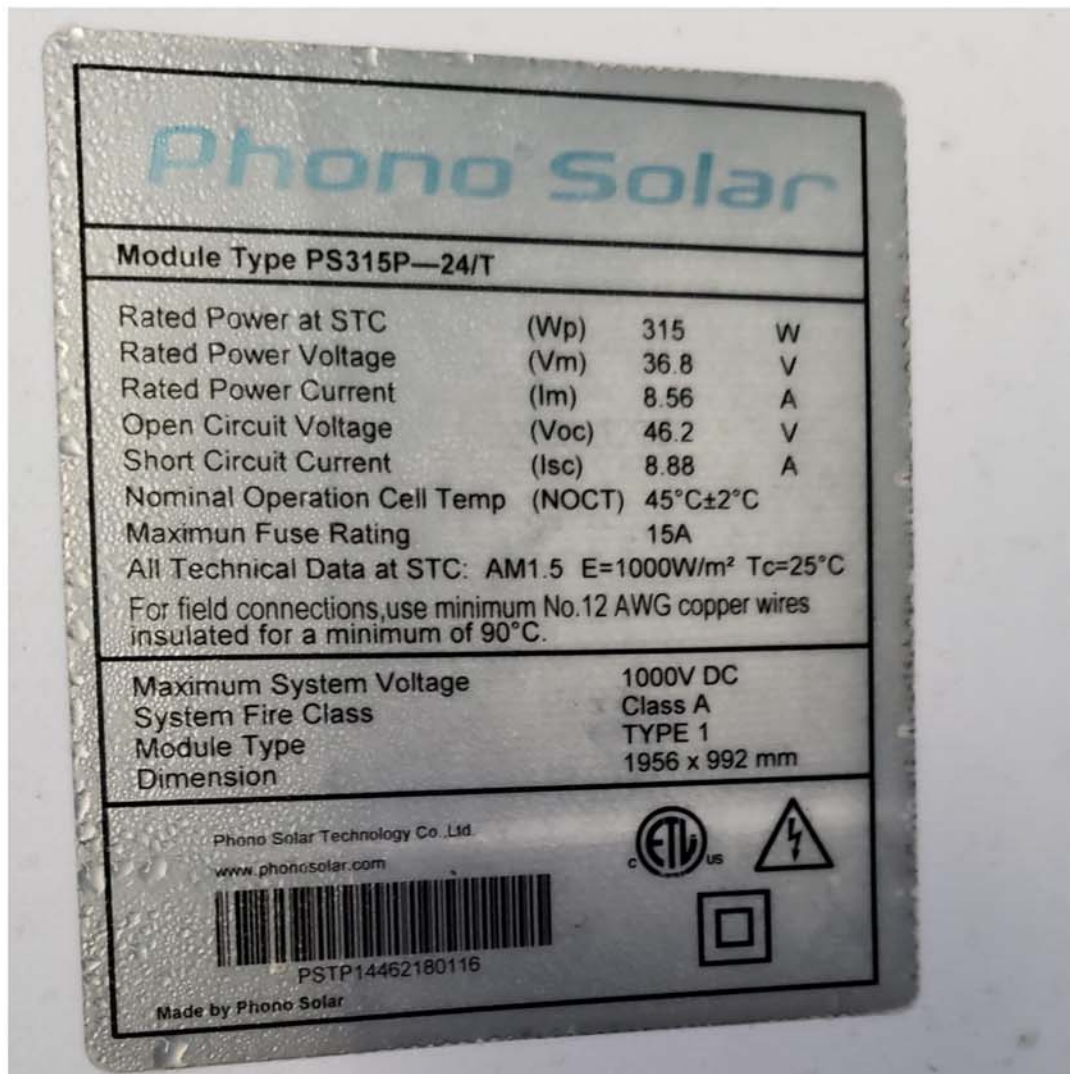
SSARC Marketplace

This section of the newsletter is for Simi Settler club members to post various used or previously owned items for sale that they may no longer have a need or use of. Please submit a brief description of the sale items (along with a photo if possible) and suggested price to Eric Oberg KE6MLF, the newsletter editor, at least two days before newsletter publication. It is suggested that a portion of each sale be donated to the SSARC treasury to help support the club's several activities. The term "OBO" means "Or Best Offer" and serves only as a starting point in negotiating a fair price.

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From Orv W6BI

For Sale - 315 watt solar panels - \$50 each. Lightly-used prior to being taken out of service. Four available. Funds will be directed towards Simi Valley repeater maintenance



LAFAYETTE RADIO MODEL TE-50 TUBE TESTER



This portable tube tester from Lafayette Radio is perfect for testing vacuum tubes from classic radios and television receivers sold back in the day. It has eight tube sockets capable of testing standard Octal, Loctal, 7-pin miniature, 9-pin miniature types as well as well as 9- and 12-pin Compactron tubes and nuvistor tubes that were popular back in the 1950's and 1960's. Tests include leakage, shorts and tube emission (e.g.- gain or μ -measurements). The tester includes a slide-out chart drawer plus supplemental charts for newer-type tubes listing the required selector switch and slide switch settings for each tube under test including a test clip for testing tubes with high-voltage anode top caps such as those used for horizontal sweep circuits of earlier televisions. Similar Lafayette Model TE-50 Tube Testers are listed on E-Bay for \$99.99 or more.

Condition: Very Good Price: \$5 or OBO. Contact Mike Tweedy KV6I (805-231-9683)

From Glenn WA6GNB

GrandStream # 1620/1625 telephone for sale. New – still in the original box. Compatible with our MESH system. \$30.00 Contact Glen at gnb.2112@yahoo.com

February 2026

From Joe W6JWP

Ender 3 v1 3D FDM Printer

Modified for direct drive.

Upgraded flexible magnetic steel bed. Includes a spare textured steel bed.

Good basic machine

\$75.00 or best offer.



Contact joe.w6jwp@gmail.com

February 2026

Simi Settlers' Amateur Radio Club Web Page: <http://www.simisetters.org/index.htm>
 Simi Settlers' ARC Yahoo Group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SimiSettlersARC>
 Mail: P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, CA 93062-2125

Simi Settlers' Leadership				
President	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Vice President	Matt Kaufman	N3AR	(818) 425-0920	matt.d.kaufman@gmail.com
Secretary	Ron Nelson	K6RIN	(805) 797-6315	rnelson759@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Committee Chairpersons				
Webmaster	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(661) 361-5955	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Eric Oberg	KE6MLF	(805) 791-0745	ericoberg1@gmail.com
Membership	Jim Parker	KJ6LXJ	(805) 368-6745	kj6lxj@gmail.com
PIO	VACANT			
Raffle Prizes	Matt Griffin	KN6SEC	(805) 433-4513	mgriffi79@yahoo.com
Youth Coordinator	VACANT			
Historian	Mike Tweedy	KV6I	(805) 231-9683	mtweedy@roadrunner.com
Net Coordinator	Brian Hernandez	KM6MIN	(805) 813-7595	km6min_bh@yahoo.com
Food Services	VACANT			
Room Coordinator	VACANT			
Elmers and Members at Large				
Past-President	Bill Woods	AB6BW	(818) 694-9019	AB6BW1@gmail.com
Advisor	Bill Everett	KI6KSV		ki6ksv@gmail.com
Advisor Morse Code	John Percival	WI6O		johnspercival1@gmail.com
Advisor Mesh	Orv Beach	W6BI		orv.beach@gmail.com

February 2026

Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 2125 Simi Valley, Ca 93062-2125 --- (www.simisetters.org)

Membership Application



Type of Application:

New Member ☐ ☐
Renewal ☐ ☐

Type of Membership:

Individual (\$25/yr) ☐ ☐
Family (\$30/yr) ☐ ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____

(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Alt. Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____

(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____

(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Name: _____ Day & Month of Birth: _____

(Omit year)

Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐

Badges requested: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐ How many? _____ X \$18.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

Shirt Printing: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐ How many? _____ X \$25.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____ (Self Supplied Polo Shirt, no emblem or pocket)

Hats Requested: Yes ☐ ☐ No ☐ ☐ How many? _____ X \$20.00 = \$ _____

Name (s) Call(s): _____

OFFICE USE ONLY

Application type: New ☐ ☐ Renewal ☐ ☐ Membership type: Individual ☐ ☐ Family ☐ ☐

Date Received: _____ Amount Received: _____ Database completed: _____

Badges and Shirts ordered: _____

February 2026